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Public Comment by Tawn Shillinglaw on the Draft SEIS for the Nevada Rail Transportation Corridor (DOE/EIS-0250F-S2D) and Draft EIS for a Rail Alignment for Yucca Mt. (DOE/EIS-0369D)

[ ] It is very clear that the Tribal Council for the Walker River Paiute Tribe has withdrawn support for the Tribes participation in the EIS process. The consolidated Group of Tribes and Organizations oppose the siting of Yucca Mt and transport to it. The Walker River Paiute Tribe will not allow DOE to transport waste across their reservation. So I find no reason at all for DOE to have evaluated the Mina route and feel that is disrespectful of the Tribes decisions. In fact - I would call it environmental racism to go ahead and do this DEIS in spite of tribal objections. It's as if you said, "So what we are going to evaluate it anyway, because we plan on using it eventually!" I've seen way too many such situations where Tribes are practically bribed to take on dry cash storage - The Mescaleros and the Goshutes had a lot of objections.

If, by law, you are supposed to consider "reasonable alternatives" then certainly the Mina Route is not reasonable at all. It is not even an alternative. So why did you send this out for public comment to spite the Tribe objections? I really am surprised you are allowed by law to do this. You call it a "non preferred alternative" - it is not an alternative. You say "it warrants further study". Why? Because you want to try and persuade the tribe to allow an unavoidable impact to American Indian interests? They see the risks as too great, and they are self evident. I object strongly to your putting these documents out in print at all. [ ] Tawn Shillinglaw.